## Memo to File:

From:

Diantha Fuller, Esq.

Re:

Mario Capagrosso, Attorney

Date:

March 19, 2015

I am writing in regards to an incident between myself and Mr. Capagrosso that occurred in the lobby of the New York State Brooklyn South Traffic Violations Bureau ("TVB") around 12 noon on March 13, 20015. This memo is simply to record this incident and other occurences. I am not requesting any action to be taken by the TVB. Given Mr. Capagrosso's documented prior bad acts, however, that resulted in his 6 month suspension from the BS TVB with mandated anger management therapy, the below incident of March 13<sup>th</sup> and other rather minor incidents directed towards myself and others is troubling for me. These incidents demonstrate his prior pattern of aberrant behavior which begin as small acts that then could escalate to more harassing, intimidating and ultimately violent behavior from Mr. Capagroso.

Since I recently returned to practice at the TVB in September 2014, Mr. Capagrosso has repeatedly said "shit" to me whenever he passed by me. At first I thought it was an offhand comment not directed at me. However, as time passed, he increased the frequency of saying "shit" to me when he passed by me, occurring almost several times daily. Upon the increase of the frequency of these verbal taunts, I noticed that this language was indeed directed at me. Since I had not ever spoken to Mr. Capagrosso because of his prior angry intimating behavior that I witnessed when I practiced from November '07 – September '12, I tried to not say anything or let him know I was rattled by his behavior. I also did not want sink to the same level of vulgarity as he in a public forum. Several lawyers who practice at the TVB do not speak to him. M. Sadiq Tahir is one lawyer who does not engage in any conversation with Mr. Capagrosso; and he also, received the same taunts from Mr. Capagrosso, who also said shit to him regularly during this same period of time. Mr. Capagrosso was always careful to speak to Mr. Tahir and me in a low tone and when others were present.

It saddens me to write this, but March 13<sup>th</sup>, 2015 was the last straw when Mr. Capagrosso passed by me and said again "shit" to me, and I verbally responded loudly in a barrage of swear words, stating that he was crazy and I was sick of him saying "shit" to me. To which he replied the he was "absolutely" (I imagine he meant crazy.) Fortunately this outburst from me was during a period when no motorists were present. Mr. Capagrosso's further response to me was to shake his shoulders and laugh. He frequently will sit by himself laughing and shaking his shoulders as if he is the only one who gets the "joke." Later, when he saw me approach J. Gelbstein, he told me he never said "shit" to me and he would file a complaint/grievance against me. On March 18, 2015 he walked by me, not addressing me directly, but he said I was a "psycho" and mumbled something else.

To further explain why this incident is troubling for me, I have been practicing traffic law since November 2007 when I began as an associate for Terri Kalker, Esq. in the BS TVB. Mr. Capagrosso's intimating and threatening violent behavior towards other lawyers, clients, and Court personnel has

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**EXHIBIT** 

been well documented, including incidents I did not observe. During that time I witnessed him punching polls, bending over and grabbing his ankles, and walking in a fast threatening manner – just enough to make one move out of the way, but he was careful to not actually hit people. I could clearly determine that his behavior was unusual, and as such never spoke to him from the first day I arrived when he spoke to me without introducing himself. This is his manner, to talk as one walks by without ever speaking directly to a person. Since I steered clear as best I could from Mr. Capagrosso, I never had direct confrontations with Mr. Capagrosso from the period of 11/2007 through 9/12 when I left for a two year period to work for a mortgage lender as a compliance officer.

Upon my return to my law practice at the BS TVB in September 2014, I was informed by attorneys that for the most part Mr. Capagrosso's anger seemed to be under control since his return from his expulsion from the TVB. However, I still witnessed more bizarre behavior such as an outburst from him directed to a Court Supervisor over paperclips being left on "his" bench; I did not know that benches in a public building were assigned to private attorneys. I also witnessed a near fight and shouting match between Mr. Capagrosso and his motorist client, where he took his jacket off and was ready to fight the client outside.

It is not my intention to harm another attorney's right to practice in BS TVB; rather I simply have endured this harassing behavior from him daily for the past 6 months and simply want him to stop doing it so that I may not be harmed or hindered in my right to practice here. I believe my direct verbal and loud language to him on March 13, 2015 that I do not want him saying "shit" to me has brought to light in public that I do not appreciate nor wish this behavior from him to continue. In short, he was put on notice from me. Given his past history and his continued speaking at me and not to me, I realize that without memorializing this incident, he will continue unfettered in his harassment of me and other attorneys, such as Sadiq Tahir.

M. Sadiq Tahir, Esq.

Dated: 3/19/15

Signed by:

Diantha Fuller, Esq.

Dated: 3/19/15

cc: Senior BS TVB J. Gelbstein